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JEFFREY SPAULDING
CHIEF OF POLICE



MEDIA RELEASE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Westminster Police Department Joins *Click It or Ticket* To Crack Down on Seat Belt Use – Especially at Night

The Westminster Police Department will join local and national law enforcement officers and highway safety advocates all across the country for the 2011 National *Click It or Ticket* Seat Belt Enforcement Mobilization, May 1-June 5.

During the mobilization, officers will be cracking down on motorists who fail to wear their seat belts – both day and night.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 11,593 passenger vehicle occupants died in motor vehicle crashes nationwide between the nighttime hours of 6 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. in 2009.

“Many more nighttime traffic deaths can be prevented if more motorists simply start wearing their seat belts. That’s why the Westminster Police Department is strongly supporting enhanced nighttime enforcement of seat belt laws during the May 1 – June 5, 2011, *Click It or Ticket* campaign,” said Chief Jeff Spaulding. “We will be out in force to remind drivers and occupants to always wear their seat belts – both day and night.”

High-visibility enforcement such as the *Click It or Ticket* mobilization is credited with increasing the national belt usage rate from 58 percent in 1994 to an observed usage rate of 85 percent in 2010. Belt use saves thousands of lives each year across America. In 2009 alone, seat belts saved 12,713 lives nationwide.

“Law enforcement will be cracking down on violators around the clock. Local motorists and passengers should be buckled up. If law enforcement finds you on the road unbuckled anytime or anywhere, you can expect to get a ticket — not a warning. No excuses and no exceptions,” said Chief Jeff Spaulding.

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